there are grave inconveniences as a result of the existing arrangements.

Mr. M. SIVABASAPPA.—In all the 7 villages referred to, cultivation is going on a very large scale. And as Tiptur is a centre for trade in cocoanut, it will be convenient to the cocoanut-growers if Tiptur is their taluk headquarter.

Mr. B. T. KESAVAIENGAR.—In Arsikere also there is cocoanut trade. At any rate, Government are not convinced that there is any real inconvenience under the present arrangement.

RESOLUTIONS ON THE BUDGET.

Resolution No. 1.

Inter-Village Communications.

Mr. S. C. MALLIAH moved the following resolution :—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that a sum of Rs. 3 lakhs be provided in the budget estimates for 1939-40 for the improvement of inter-village communications in the State."

In doing so, he said that it was agreed on all hands that improvement of villages was vital to the country's progress and the Government, realising this, were devoting special attention to the work of rural reconstruction. But the most important aspect of village improvement was the provision of communications from one village to another and this was deserving of better and closer attention than was being bestowed at present. In fact, in many villages, on account of the total absence of communications, a lot of inconvenience was being felt. Several villages were difficult of access to people of the surrounding localities during the rainy season, and even officers who had to visit them could do so only by taking circuitous routes which involved considerable loss of time and expenditure; and when the officers could not reach and inspect the interior parts, they could do little to improve them. Government had invested lots of money on improving the trunk roads, but as these were not linked with the villages, the villagers were denied the benefit of the trunk roads which were improved at the cost of general revenues. No doubt, the Government were giving grants for improvements here and there, but the problem was State-wide and it would be no consolation for people of one particular backward tract to be told that some other areas elsewhere were being improved at heavy cost. Nor would the purpose in view be fully secured if the Government were to make an outright grant, once for all. Government must therefore adopt a comprehensive policy of providing inter-village communications all through the State and ear-marking definite grants every year in the budget for the purpose, as was being done, for example, in respect of drinking-water wells, irrigation works, etc. And for working out that programme, the member thought that it was necessary to create a separate fund and to take up, every year, the work of linking up a few villages systematically in every taluk. Otherwise, he was afraid that most of the villages would continue to remain isolated and in a backward condition, notwithstanding the measures taken by the Government in all other directions. In this view, he requested the Government to set apart Rs. 3 lakhs every year and lay down a programme for a stated number of years, say 5 or 6 years, within which all the villages in the State should have been linked up with one another and also with the provincial roads. He also hoped that the Government would accept the resolution.

In seconding the resolution, **Mr. G. MALLANNA** said that the calls on the resources of the district boards were so many that these could not afford to spare money for providing new roads. Most of them were faced with deficit budgets on account of the fact that a good portion of their revenues was being spent on the maintenance of the already existing local fund roads. So far as village panchayets went, they were all independent bodies with still more limited sources of income and could attend only to such things as were of direct benefit to their own particular areas. For this reason, it was necessary to decide beforehand the particular agency which would have to attend to the provision or improvement of village communications. Personally, the speaker felt that if funds to the necessary

extent were placed at the disposal of the Deputy Commissioners, they could utilise them to the best advantage and execute the work in a satisfactory manner.

In this connection, he suggested that the Deputy Commissioners should be instructed to give effect to the resolutions passed at district conferences since that would create confidence in the minds of the rural population that Government were really interested in respecting the views and opinions of the representatives of the people in matters like the present which had a direct bearing on the welfare of the tax-payers.

Mr. JATHARE NAIK was of opinion that, in respect of providing inter-village communications also, if the system of weekly labour was availed of and insisted upon, considerable progress could be secured within a few years.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA, in supporting the resolution, endorsed some of the views expressed by Mr. Mallanna and said that the problem of village roads could be solved only if the Government themselves were prepared to meet the entire expenditure. But as regards the execution of the work, he was of opinion that the district boards would be the best agency for it, provided they were helped with liberal grants. He did not believe that it would be most advantageous to entrust the work to the Deputy Commissioners since the revenue officials would be too busy otherwise.

He next thanked the President for his kind assurance that arrangements would be made for tarring portions of the provincial roads running through local board limits. This showed the genuine interest which Government had for the improvement of interior parts. He requested that this work also should be done according to a definite programme.

Mr. H. K. MADIAH was afraid that the district boards would not be of any help to interior villages and that even if the district boards were abolished, not many would regret it. So, he said that Government might sanction the grant prayed for in the resolution and entrust the work to taluk boards.

Mr. Y. V. MUNISWAMI IYER strongly supported the resolution. But he was sorry that the resolution asked for a provision of Rs. 3 lakhs only for one year. He wished that the same provision should be made every year in the budget and that the resolution should be amended to that effect. If this grant was stopped with the first year, no substantial progress could be achieved.

Mr. K. L. NANJAPPA NADIG supported the amendment

Mr. B. SRINIVASA RAO appealed for a share of the road tax to be given to district boards as a subvention for road maintenance, just as the Forest Department got a share of it for the purpose of Kaval road maintenance.

The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (Diwan Bahadur N. N. Ayyangar) explained that Government fully realised the importance of providing inter-village communications. But it had to be remembered that for constructing roads throughout the length and breadth of the State, enormous amount of money would be needed. On a rough estimate, about 40,000 miles of roads would have to be constructed and the cost thereof would be Rs. 2 crores or more; and in addition, a maintenance grant of about Rs. 8 lakhs would be needed per annum. The point for consideration was whether the Government could undertake such a large scheme all at once.

Proceeding, he mentioned that already the Government had laid out 2,210 miles of roads and that a sum of Rs. 11 lakhs was being spent on their annual maintenance, apart from the cost of tarring some of them. The district boards had also laid out 3,660 miles of roads and they were spending about Rs. 4·73 lakhs on their maintenance. There was no doubt, he said, that the district boards were doing their best in that direction, even with their limited resources. The question of providing inter-village communications was such a large one that it would be beyond practical politics to expect either the Government or the district boards to find all the funds required. It was essentially a matter for the village panchayets concerned to attend to, and if they could undertake the work on a co-operative basis, he felt that it would be

possible to solve the problem by laying down for themselves a programme for 5 years or 10 years. If they could follow a five-year programme, a sum of Rs. 1,500 would have to be contributed by each panchayet. If that was not practicable, and a ten-year programme was adopted, a contribution of Rs. 750 from each panchayet would be necessary. For maintenance purposes, each panchayet would be required to find Rs. 20 to Rs. 30 annually. The speaker was definitely of opinion that this problem could not be solved except under a programme as outlined by him.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA pointed out that in regard to all road works, even now, the earth-work was being done by the panchayets themselves and that it was only for masonry, tunnel works and other major items that the district boards were sparing funds at their own cost. The work of constructing approach roads and other shorter roads was also being attended to by the village panchayets themselves. The district boards were no doubt encouraging the village panchayets to construct inter-village roads but they could not spare any large amounts to the panchayets for carrying out such works. He therefore appealed to the Government to sanction liberal grants to the district boards so as to enable them to undertake the work on a large scale.

Mr. SONNAPPA brought to notice that wherever there were deep pits, culverts had to be constructed to facilitate traffic and that Government must provide special grants for such works.

Mr. N. N. AYYANGAR said that if the district boards were already doing their best and asked for any extra relief in special cases, the cases would be considered.

Speaking in support of the resolution, Mr. L. VEMA REDDY mentioned that some years before he had sent up to Government a scheme relating to the question of inter-village communication, on which he had been complimented by the Government. The outline of that scheme was that a committee should be formed consisting of the president of the district board and a few non-official representatives, along with the Sub-Division Officers and Amildars concerned, the Amildars being asked to prepare lists of road works that should be undertaken in each taluk. The committee must decide the exact alignment of the road from one end of the district to the other, and the raiyats of the concerned localities should be given a voice as to which villages each particular road should serve. Each road should also be linked with the nearest arterial road. The district boards should undertake the construction of culverts, stone and mortar works, etc. Government must give a definite grant on the mileage basis, which must be paid direct to the village panchayets for the work done by them. The speaker had stated it even in connection with that scheme that if the grant was given to the district board, the work would not proceed systematically, and that the Revenue Department would be the best agency for carrying out the work. If only the Amildars had the will for it, it would not be very difficult for them to lay out the interior roads. The country remembered with gratitude that even the existing provincial and other important roads were first constructed, not by district boards which never existed in those days, but by the Amildars. Even now, if the local revenue officers co-operated with the panchayets, it would not be a difficult thing to solve the question. In this connection, he suggested that it was highly desirable that the Government should suitably recognise the services rendered by both officers and non-official gentlemen. That would also induce the Amildars and non-official gentlemen in other taluks to take up similar work in their areas also. He had no doubt that if the suggestions contained in his note were followed, the knotty problem of inter-village communications would have been successfully solved.

The SECOND MEMBER (Mr. K. V. Anantaraman), speaking for the Government, explained the practice followed in providing inter-village communications. Earth-work was being done by the raiyats concerned, while masonry and other works were being undertaken by district boards or by special agencies

with the help of the rural development grant. In special cases like the Irwin Canal area, where the work was of a difficult and urgent nature, Government were giving special grants and getting roads constructed by the Public Works Department. As an instance in point, he mentioned the Kankanhalli Taluk in which originally a certain hobli had no roads at all. The panchayets co-operated with the Government and found half the cost of constructing a road while the other half was contributed by the Government. With the money thus found, about 12 miles of road had been constructed. Similarly, he pointed out that in the Closepet Health Centre also, inter-village communications were being provided.

Proceeding, he agreed with the previous speaker that road works in the villages could best be done by village panchayets evincing the necessary interest and not under the usual contract system. If it was entrusted to the Public Works contractors, the villages might not derive an adequate return for the expenditure incurred.

The attitude of Government in regard to this resolution was one of sympathy with the intentions of the mover. Another point to be borne in mind in connection with this question was that it would not be enough if merely roads were constructed. It was essential that provision should be made by means of annual grants for their maintenance. In Bagepalli, Chintamani and other taluks, several roads had been constructed as famine relief works. In those cases, the panchayets were asked to contribute a moiety of the cost and the Government also gave their share, and those roads were now being maintained properly. In other places also, it would be desirable to adopt a similar practice. But this was essentially a matter in which, if the panchayets co-operated with the Government, the object underlying the resolution could easily be achieved.

Lokasevaniratha Bale SIDDALINGA SETTY referred to the statement of the Second Member of Council and said that he was very glad that in the Irwin Canal area, special grants were being given by Government for road works in the interior parts. He then brought to notice that many people whose lands had been submerged under the K.R.S. canals had been given lands in exchange in far off places. But they were finding it difficult to live in such new places since there were no roads leading thereto. The speaker therefore prayed that a similar concession be extended to all such people at Government cost.

Mr. V. VENKATASWAMI CHETTY suggested that as in the case of medical institutions, school buildings, etc., the Government might enlist the sympathy of private philanthropists on a liberal scale and construct inter-village roads with the help thereof and name the roads so constructed after the donors. In addition, the donors might also be given some recognition such as public service medals. There were many liberal-minded people who were anxious to contribute their share in this direction if only they were approached in the proper manner. For instance, Mr. Y. V. Muniswami Iyer was prepared to contribute a sum of Rs. 200 for a particular road. Sir M. Visvesvaraya had given a contribution of Rs. 1,000 for the construction of a road to his village. In the same way, if other charitably-disposed persons were requested to donate for this cause, he had no doubt that within a short time many inter-village roads could be laid out and facilities provided to the raiyats for transport and other purposes.

Mr. T. SHADAKSHARAPPA agreed with the view expressed by the Second Member of Council that earth-work should be done by the concerned panchayets. Even now they were prepared to do it, but they were not in a position to meet the maintenance charges even in part. In Parasuramapura, work to the extent of Rs. 2,000 had been done in connection with a certain road work, but the panchayet was not in a position to maintain the road. It would therefore be well if the Government undertook to meet the maintenance charges of all village roads or sanctioned special grants to the panchayets for the purpose.

Replying to the debate, **Mr. S. C. MALLIAH** said that the statement

made by the Second Member of Council was disappointing to him. The Member had stated in a general way that the earth-work should be done by the panchayets themselves. The village panchayets had no objection to form roads within their own jurisdiction, but he liked to know whose responsibility it was to connect the different roads. In the case of municipalities, for example, the connecting roads were either in charge of the local bodies or the Government according as they were local fund or trunk roads. But there was no agency at present for forming and maintaining roads connecting the panchayets.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN replied that every bit of land between any two panchayets belonged to the one panchayet or the other, and as such there could be no roads outside the jurisdiction of any village panchayet.

Continuing, **Mr. S. C. MALLIAH** said that the Village Panchayet Fund had a heavy balance at its credit and there was no definite programme of work in any of the panchayets for which that balance was likely to be utilised in the near future. A portion of this fund might well be utilised as a nucleus of a new fund to be formed for the construction of village roads, to such nucleus being added the Government's share of the contribution also. And from out of this fund, the village road works might be carried out in accordance with a well-defined programme. Without roads no progress would be possible in any direction. It was indeed very good of Mr. Venkataswami Chetty to have suggested that private philanthropy should be enlisted. It was a laudable idea, no doubt, but that alone would not suffice to raise funds to the necessary extent. The Government should realise that they had also some responsibility in the matter and bear their share of the expenditure, just as they were doing in respect of providing hospitals, drinking water wells, etc. According to the rough estimate given by the Chief Engineer, about 40,000 miles of road would have to be formed, involving an expenditure of about Rs. 2 crores. Some day or other, the situation must be faced and it would be well if the Government took action immediately. It might be argued that the District Boards should attend to these works. But it was a well-known fact that the financial position of the boards was anything but satisfactory, and when they were not in a position to look after their own roads, it would be too much to expect them to take up the construction and maintenance of village roads also. Government ought to adopt a bold and sympathetic attitude in this matter just as they had done in respect of hospitals, drinking-water wells, etc. And as regards private philanthropy, he felt that if the work was started by the Government, private charities would be forthcoming. For these reasons, he requested the Government to accept the resolution and provide the sum asked for in it.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN assured the member that Government would consider the resolution sympathetically and see how far the object underlying it could be given effect to.

In view of this assurance, the mover withdrew his resolution.

The resolution was withdrawn by leave of the House.

Resolution No. 2.

Establishing more Upper Primary Schools.

Mr. S. C. MALLIAH moved the following resolution standing against his name:—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that an additional sum of Rs. 1,00,000 be provided in the Budget Estimates for 1939-40 so as to facilitate the starting of more and more central Upper Primary Schools with a view to coach up students up to Kannada Lower Secondary Examination, as the major part of the amount now spent towards primary education is not being utilised usefully."

Before speaking on the resolution, he added the words "and Urdu" between the word "Kannada" and "Lower Secondary Examination" in the resolution, with the permission of the House.

Commending the resolution for the acceptance of the House, **Mr. MALLIAH** said that the subject-matter of the resolution was a very important one and this was evident from the fact that in the course of the budget discussions during the last three days almost every member had expressed the view that much of the expenditure at present incurred on primary education was going to waste. As much as 80 per cent of the children joining the first year primary class were dropping off before they reached the fifth year class. If primary education was to be of any value either to boys or girls, these should be enabled to complete at least the Lower Secondary stage, though a pass in the S.S.L.C. was the minimum qualification for various purposes. Otherwise the children would forget what they had learnt and the money, labour and time so far put in would go to waste. At present, most of the middle schools were located at taluk headquarters, some at hobli headquarters and a few in big villages. On an average, the distance from one school to another was about 7 or 8 miles and it was very difficult for young children to cover such long distances daily. This was the main reason why children dropped off at the end of the primary course. To get over this difficulty, it was desirable to increase the number of Upper Primary Kannada and Urdu Schools, corresponding to the increase in the number of primary schools. Government need not have to incur any heavy expenditure on this account, since there were two or three teachers in each school already. Some of the School Boards had sent up resolutions to the effect that wherever the number of pupils was more than 100 and wherever there were at least four teachers, middle school classes might be opened. If this was slightly modified and schools with three teachers were allowed to open upper primary classes, greater facilities would become available to young children and education in the State would make much better progress. The member was sorry to state that the Education Department had not so far examined how the present waste in the primary grade of education could be avoided. It was high time that the department did this without further delay, with a view to seeing that the money spent was put to the best possible advantage.

Mr. KHAJI SYED YUSUFF SAHIB seconded the resolution. He agreed that there was a lot of waste in the primary grade and if this was to be avoided, Kannada and Urdu Upper Primary Schools should be started in the villages. But the Government might ask how the additional expenditure which it would involve should be met and in reply he would make a suggestion. As was already stated by him the previous day during the course of budget discussion, those living in the urban areas were not contributing anything towards primary education Schools were being maintained in those areas at the cost of the villagers. The Government might order the levy of an education cess of 12½ per cent on municipal income. The revenue derived from this source, together with the contribution that Government might provide, might be utilised for opening as many upper primary schools as possible. Otherwise, he was afraid primary education in the State would make no progress and even the children already at schools would lapse into illiteracy.

Mr. MARULAPPA also supported the resolution.

Mr. A. N. RAMA RAO, in opposing the resolution, said that though as regards the object underlying the resolution there was no difference of opinion between him and the mover, he did not agree with him that a sum of one lakh of rupees should be provided in the budget under discussion, for opening new upper primary schools. He suggested that, to begin with, statistics should be collected of languishing schools, schools without teachers, schools with teachers but no pupils, etc. This done, all languishing schools should be abolished and new ones opened instead in more populous places where people were keen about the education of their children. A policy of centralisation of schools should be adopted. If a judicious readjustment was made, schools could be opened in places where there was a real demand and Government also would

not be wasting the expenditure incurred on them. In this sense, the speaker was not in favour of Government providing a lakh of rupees for the purpose in view. Incidentally, he did not believe that children would lapse into illiteracy if they discontinued their studies at the end of the primary school stage. In his opinion, there was no such thing as "lapsing into illiteracy." Ordinarily, nobody would forget what he had learnt.

Mr. SHER KHAN, narrating his experience as a member of the District Board, as well as of the School Board, said that there were about 40 or 50 upper primary schools in the Shimoga District and in almost every one of them, the number of pupils was not more than 3 or 4 in the fifth and sixth year classes. In such cases, it was considered a waste to have 3 or 4 teachers. For this reason, the Director of Public Instruction had ordered that these schools should be closed down and new primary schools with two teachers each opened wherever necessary. Also, as the district was sparsely populated, permission had been given as a special case to open middle school classes in schools where the number of pupils was 75 or more. But unfortunately even that number was not forthcoming in many cases. Secondly, no useful purpose would be served by merely increasing the number of upper primary schools. For boys intending to go up to the high school stage, instruction in Kannada in the lower classes would not be of much help. They required to be taught in English. So, instead of wasting money on upper primary education, it would be better if more primary and middle schools were opened in places where there was a demand for them. From this point of view, the suggestion made in the resolution to increase the number of upper primary schools was a retrograde step. With these remarks, he opposed the resolution.

Mr. K. L. NANJAPPA NADIG, in supporting the resolution, said that the main object of the resolution was that more central upper primary schools should be opened in the State. This was necessary because in most of the primary schools in the villages, tuition was given only up to the third year class and for further studies the children had to go to the hobli headquarters in a few cases and to the taluk headquarters in many cases. As young children could not go such long distances, upper primary schools near at hand were quite necessary. The resolution had nothing to do with languishing schools and it was left to the Government either to abolish or to improve them.

Mr. L. VEMA REDDY remarked that any number of speeches made in the House and any amount of special grants could not solve the problem satisfactorily unless the entire educational policy was thoroughly revised. Teachers of old were training up students in their own way for the Lower Secondary Examination. It might be that they had not received any special training. But it must be said to their credit that they took particular care of their students and their application and earnestness were most commendable. With the introduction of new subjects and newer systems, policies also underwent a change irrespective of the fact that they were not suitable to local conditions. And if education was to continue on the same lines, it would not be a matter for surprise if no progress was secured even at the end of 50 or 100 years. He therefore suggested that schools in the village parts should be entrusted to the care of the village panchayets concerned, which should be allowed sufficient freedom in regard to the supervision and management of the schools. If this was done, he hoped that education would progress much better.

Mr. MIRZA M. AZIZULLA BEIG strongly supported the resolution. He said that if the mover had consulted him before sending up the resolution, he would have suggested that at least Rs. 3 lakhs should have been asked for. At present, the Government were spending about Rs. 57 lakhs odd on Education and out of it, as much as Rs. 17·5 lakhs was set apart for primary education. It was true that the percentage of literacy in other countries

was higher than in Mysore and that everything necessary should be done to improve the percentage in the State also. But it was also true that in Mysore people were so poor that they could not afford to send their children to school. This was why at every stage a number of pupils were dropping off, with the result that the number of students who went up to the University stage was indeed very small. Those who passed out of the high schools would somehow manage to get seats in the colleges. But it was not so easy for children to get admission into the middle schools due to the fact that in the first place the schools were not within easy reach, and in the second place, that accommodation in the middle schools was inadequate. This had prevented the children from getting the benefit of education even of the lower secondary standard. It was the bounden duty of the Government to provide facilities in this direction to all intending pupils and to see, if possible, that cent per cent of the children passed through at least the middle school stage. For this reason, he urged that Government should provide the sum asked for in the resolution.

Mr. Y. V. MUNISWAMI IYER did not agree with Mr. Khaji Syed Yusuff Sahib in that an education cess should be levied on all municipal incomes derived in the urban areas. Many people, though living in urban areas, were paying land assessment which carried an education cess with it. Calling upon such persons to pay an education cess on municipal incomes would mean subjecting them to a double taxation. The proposal, in his opinion, was thoroughly unjust and he therefore opposed it.

Mr. B a l l a m SRINIVASA RAO said that in most of the primary schools in the villages, there was no fourth year class and as children could not join middle schools located in distant places, they were forced to discontinue their studies at that stage. He therefore suggested that wherever competent teachers were available, middle schools should be started. Such an experiment might be tried at Hulibele (Bowringpet Taluk) where one or two graduates were available and willing to accept appointments.

Mr. Bhupalam R. CHANDRASEKHARAYYA, in further supporting the resolution, endorsed every one of the views expressed by Mr. Khaji Syed Yusuff Sahib. He emphasized that Mysore being a Kannada country, instruction in all the subjects should be imparted in the Kannada language as far as possible in all stages.

Mr. K. N. PUTTANNA did not agree with the view expressed by an earlier speaker (Mr. A. N. Rama Rao) that the languishing schools should be closed and new ones started instead, in places where there was larger demand for schools. So long as people paid the education cess, proper facilities should be provided for the education of their children. Such facilities would be denied if schools were closed down as suggested. And if the existing facilities were taken away, the Government would have no right to collect the cess any longer. But the cess would continue to be levied whether the schools were kept on or discontinued. In this view, it was the duty of the department to see that schools were made to work well wherever they existed and that additional schools were opened where they did not exist. There was no justification in calling a school languishing and then closing it. Attempts should be made to find the reasons why any school was languishing and rectify the defects. In addition to doing this, the Government should provide sufficient grants for opening new schools every year. What the Government were providing at present was very little in view of the aim that primary education should spread throughout the State as soon as possible. The Government ought to be able to find funds for the purpose. If necessary, retrenchments might be effected under various heads of expenditure provided in the budget and the savings utilised for opening new schools. But whether this suggestion was accepted by the Government or not, the necessity for more schools was in itself undoubted. If schools were not opened and young boys in the rural parts were not educated properly, they

would be exposed to grave risks; in their innocence, they would be misled; they would believe that everything said by interested persons was true, and themselves begin to talk about the Government and its officers in an irresponsible manner. In that way, they would be doing a disservice to the State. Taking all this into consideration, and considering also that Government themselves were anxious that primary education should expand, the speaker requested that they should accept the resolution and take all possible steps to implement it.

Mr. H. K. MADIAH further supported the resolution. But he was opposed to the proposal by Khaji Syed Yusuff Sahib that an education cess should be levied on municipal incomes. He then referred to another proposal already before the school board, brought up at the instance of the Government, to raise the education cess levied on land revenue and said that the board had passed a lukewarm resolution on it. He stated that such indifferent attitude on the part of the board was due to the fact that there was not enough accommodation for the children in the schools. He urged that whatever the cost, more schools must be opened and all the boys and girls enabled to study at least up to the lower secondary standard. The population of the State had increased and consequently the number of schools also should correspondingly increase. And for this purpose, it was necessary that Government should provide additional funds.

Mr. G. S. SUBBA RAO said that there were one or two important points to be considered in connection with the resolution before the House. It had been said that the present system of education was not of much practical benefit. If this was so, the first point for consideration was whether any benefit would accrue if more money was spent on the existing system. Also, the mover of the resolution had stated that the money spent on primary education was going to waste. Whether it was so, and if so why, and whether a larger number of children could not be helped with the same expenditure were questions worthy of investigation.

The member then suggested that Mysore being a Kannada country, it was necessary that the medium of instruction in the middle and primary schools should be Kannada. Circular instructions to that effect had no doubt been issued by the Government and were in force. But it was desirable that the Director went to the villages to see for himself how far this had helped to promote the object in view, whether the teaching was up to the standard, etc., and in what directions improvements could be effected. Unfortunately, however, the present Director could not understand the language of the country and so he could not find out any defects. It would not matter so much if the Vice-Chancellor of the University, for example, or any of the University Professors were foreigners But so far as the Education Department was concerned, the Head of the Department must be a man conversant with the language of the country. If this principle was accepted and acted upon, and if the Director inspected the schools and effected the necessary reforms, the speaker was sure that within a short period of time, education would make rapid strides in the State.

The next point to be considered was whether the existing number of schools was sufficient or there was a real necessity for additional schools. He was of opinion that there was real need for more schools, as the population in the rural parts was on the increase, as also the demand for education. According to the rural reconstruction scheme under which every village had to look after the needs of the village, the maintenance of schools also might be entrusted to the village panchayets. It would be possible for the panchayets to take up that responsibility if cess collections in each village was permitted to be utilised for the educational purposes of the areas concerned. He also suggested that a special officer might be appointed to supervise the work of the teachers in all the panchayet schools and see that they showed steady progress. If this was done, the percentage of literacy would rise to the level reached in the Cochin and Travancore States,

without much additional cost and there would be no need for the additional grant asked for in the resolution.

Mr. L. VEMA REDDY said that he did not agree with the previous speaker that the educational progress of the State was in any way going to be prejudiced on account of the fact that the present Director of Public Instruction was not conversant with the language of the country. He was a capable, intelligent and industrious officer with a keen insight and that there was every reason to expect that the department would be administered by him in the best manner possible.

Mr. N. HANUMANTHIAH, in seconding the resolution, said that he endorsed the remarks made by Mr. R. Gopalswamy Iyer in the course of the budget debate the previous day. He brought to notice that after separate schools for Adikarnataka pupils were abolished, many parents of that community had given up sending their children to school. He therefore requested that separate schools be re-established and all children of school-going age, belonging to that community, compelled to go to school. The grant for the education of the Adikarnataka pupils had remained stationary for many years now and he requested that the same be enhanced suitably. The member thanked the Government for having sanctioned a special grant for the formation of an Adikarnataka colony at Nelamangala and as regards the hostel for pupils of that community, he represented that a special grant therefor be sanctioned.

Mr. MAHOMED MUSTAPHA SAHIB also supported the resolution. He stated that the text-books in middle schools were changed too frequently and that poor boys were therefore not in a position to profit by books used by the students passing out of particular classes. He also brought to notice that the accommodation was insufficient in most of the schools for boys and girls. He requested that action be taken to remedy the inconveniences to poor boys and girls in regard to both these matters. He then suggested that village panchayets should be induced to raise special subscriptions annually for the purpose of helping poor children to buy books, etc. He took this opportunity of repeating his suggestion that Kannada schools and Urdu schools be located in one and the same place in all cases so that a certain amount of brotherly feeling and harmonious relations might develop between the two important communities right from the beginning.

Mr. Tudki RAMANNA GOWDA requested that Government must accept this most important resolution. He remarked that the Education Department was the one department in which the higher officers did not seem to be particular about safeguarding the interests of the poor people. He did not believe that some of the range inspectors and school board officers had seen even one of the schools within their jurisdiction. This remark at any rate held good in the case of malnad. It was necessary that Government took some effective action to see that the cause of education was served better in future. With regard to school masters, the member felt that the pay they were getting was not sufficient to enable them to maintain themselves and their families and substantial additions to their pay were urgently called for. Some of the schools in the malnad were kept closed for long periods merely due to the absence of the teachers. The department must therefore make it a point to send substitutes in all such cases.

Speaking on behalf of Government the **SECOND MEMBER (Mr. K. V. Anantaraman)** stated that both the Government and the mover of the resolution agreed that education should spread in all parts of the State. But he wished to contradict the statement that not much benefit was accruing at present from the existing primary schools. Having said this, the speaker stated that Government were as anxious as anybody else to see that the benefits of primary education were made available in all the villages. The final report of the special committee dealing with the question of elementary education was shortly expected and in passing orders on that report, Government would do everything possible under the present financial

conditions of the State to improve the position. On the decisions taken by Government with regard to primary education would depend the action to be taken in respect of secondary education also. So Government would take into consideration the interests of secondary education along with primary education. It was a fact that upper primary schools were neither primary schools nor middle schools. They were only a means to enable boys in the village parts to go up to the English Lower Secondary Examination. The Director of Public Instruction was just telling the speaker that in Madras and Travancore, there were what were called higher elementary schools, in which instruction was imparted in the language of the country, but those schools were not the same as upper primary schools. They were only meant to impart instructions of the middle school grade in the language of the country. That was the main reason why the percentage of literacy was so high in those parts, but that was not the system in vogue in Mysore. The question for consideration at present therefore was whether higher elementary schools such as those in existence in Travancore, for example, should be started in Mysore, and if so, what the syllabus should be. This and other allied questions were to be considered by the Education Department of the State. For example, the Department would have to consider how best the largest number of students could be attracted to the fourth and the fifth year classes and, when that was done, how to provide a larger number of middle schools. These were essentially questions of finance, and progress could not for that reason be too sudden. At the same time, Government were seeing from the newspapers the action that was being taken in the British Indian Provinces governed by Congress Ministries, and following with keen interest the steps that were being taken in those provinces to meet the educational needs of the country. Bearing in mind the measures taken in those provinces and after considering the report of the special committee already appointed in Mysore, the Government would do their best to promote the educational interest of the State. It was possible that both the Government and the local bodies would have to provide larger funds than at present for implementing the decisions that might be taken. Until, however, the decisions themselves were taken, it would not be advisable for Government straightway to bring about new types of schools which were neither primary nor middle schools, properly so called. The special committee's report might be expected in about three months' time and the House would do well to wait till Government had considered that report and passed orders thereon.

One member had made a remark concerning the present Director of Public Instruction, that he did not know the language of the country and was therefore not in a position to see for himself how primary education in the State was progressing. Primary education, after all, was mainly the concern of the respective Local Education Authorities. The duties of the Director, related to the organisation and inspection of those schools, and these duties, the Director was certainly performing satisfactorily.

One representative from the malnad had brought to notice in the course of this debate that inspection of primary schools in the malnad was not regular or effective. Government would take every action to improve matters in that regard.

In conclusion the speaker wished to assure the House that Government would not hesitate to see that the State derived the fullest return for the expenditure incurred on each grade of education.

Mr. S. C. MALLIAH, in replying to the debate, said that he could not subscribe to the observations made by Mr. A. N. Rama Rao that there was much waste on account of languishing schools being kept on and that things would certainly improve if such schools were abolished and the re-distribution of schools was effected. Personally he felt that school boards were not functioning efficiently. In fact, apart from amalgamation and re-allotment of schools, they did practically nothing and even in cases where they wished to take up any original

work, they lacked the money necessary for it.

The speaker did not also agree with Mr. A. N. Rama Rao that there could be nothing like lapsing into illiteracy on the ground that things once learnt could never be forgotten. As a matter of fact many persons had forgotten what they had learnt at school. If therefore boys should not lapse into illiteracy and if the State should derive the fullest possible return for the expenditure it incurred on primary education, it was necessary for Government to accept the resolution and give effect to it.

Mysore was a Kannada country and the department and its agencies should pay first attention to the Kannada language. For boys as well as for girls a school course of at least five or six years was absolutely necessary and the educational authorities must see that by the end of that course, every pupil was given education of at least a certain standard which would be of real and practical use to the pupils in their later life.

The member was quite aware that it would be an impossible proposition that middle schools should be provided in each and every place in the State. But it ought to be possible to provide one in every place where there were persons willing to help in working it. He did not mind by what name such schools would be called—whether as Central Primary Schools, or Upper Primary Schools or Middle Schools—as the only object was that education up to the Lower Secondary must be given to all boys and girls, whether in Kannada or in Urdu.

In the course of his remarks, the Second Member had been pleased to state that Government would consider the subject-matter of this resolution before passing orders on the special committee's report. In view of that statement and also in the hope that sufficient funds would be provided for starting more schools in the different parts of the State, he would withdraw the resolution.

The resolution was withdrawn.

Resolution No. 3.

Mr. B. L. BYANNA moved the following resolution :—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that in view of the crippled finances of the Bangalore City Municipality and also of the assurances given to them from time to time, they will be pleased to provide in the Budget for 1939-40 a sum of Rs. 2,00,000 as a first instalment of contribution to the Bangalore City Municipality for completing the 'Underground Drainage Works' they have now undertaken."

In doing so, he narrated the circumstances under which the Government had promised special help to the Bangalore City Municipality in connection with the work of laying underground drains throughout the city. He explained that the population of the city was increasing steadily and was as much as 1,75,000 at present. Bangalore was also the oldest and the most important city in the State. The Government realised several years ago that the health and sanitation of such an important city should not be allowed to suffer on account of stagnation and sinkage of water, and advised the municipality to lay underground drains throughout the city. A survey was accordingly made and plans and estimates prepared by a special Engineer for putting up underground drains throughout the city. Estimates for underground drainages and other urgent works came up to the very high figure of Rs. 40 lakhs. The city municipality being unable to provide funds to the full extent, the Government gave it an assurance that if the municipality agreed to meet a half of the cost, the balance would be contributed by them. In spite of that assurance from the Government, the municipality was not able to take up the work for want of funds. But the health of the city suffered on that account and several diseases began to make their appearance. The Municipal Council therefore resolved to float a loan of Rs. 20 lakhs for drainage and for some other urgent items of work in the hope that as promised the Government would contribute a like sum. The Municipal Council was paying interest on the said loan to the extent of Rs. 70,000 every year. While

half the borrowed amount had already been used up and work still being done with the remainder, it was found that the municipality could not provide underground drainage even for one-third of the total area of the city. And underground drains in only a part of the city would necessarily be a source of danger to the rest of the city. In this view, he requested the Government to see that their promised quota was provided in annual instalments as prayed for in the resolution.

In various connections, some of the members of the House had made an observation that Government were over generous towards the cities of Bangalore and Mysore and that rural improvement was not receiving adequate attention. The speaker felt that there was no justification for an observation of that kind. Though he was a representative of the Bangalore City, he was interested in the welfare of the villages as much as anybody else. He would therefore support every reasonable request coming from the representatives of the rural parts for adequate help for the improvement thereof.

He appealed to the representatives of the rural parts to support this resolution since the contribution prayed for from the Government was required for a very necessary and urgent purpose in the city.

Members of the House must also remember that the Government were deriving a very large income within the city limits from sources like income-tax, excise, registration, entertainment tax, etc. The raiyat population must realise that they owed much to the cities since the latter provided markets where the former could sell their agricultural produce to the best possible advantage. The cities also provided roads, drinking-water, lights, etc., for the benefit of the villagers coming to the cities on business. Speaking of the Bangalore City in particular, the municipality was spending as much as Rs. 5½ lakhs on water-supply alone, of which Rs. 1¾ lakhs were being paid to the Government as excess water charges. It had been calculated that of this amount public fountains alone were costing the municipality Rs. 2 lakhs, and these were mostly meant for the benefit of villagers transacting business in the city. But for public fountains, lights, parks, etc., the floating population would have been seriously inconvenienced. In return for these inconveniences, the villagers certainly owed something to the city. Besides, Bangalore enjoyed a very high reputation on account of its salubrious climate and distinguished visitors from all parts of the world were delighted to see the place. It was necessary, even from the point of view of the State as a whole, that such a city was maintained efficiently. The villagers must bear their share of maintaining such a beautiful city because they naturally enjoyed part of the reputation which the city earned for the entire State.

In accordance with the orders passed by Government from time to time, several tanks and wells had been closed and the visitors from the villages were therefore denied the benefit of free water-supply. The municipality in fact had to pay for every drop of water used by the visitors for bathing, washing and drinking in the city. So, even as a matter of pure business, the city was entitled to some compensation, if not from the villagers directly, at least from the Government on their behalf.

For all these reasons there was no justification why Government should continue to hesitate to grant the contribution which they had definitely promised to do. Only two years earlier, the Dewan had been pleased to say that when the amount of loan which the municipality had raised was actually used up, the promised contribution from the Government would be made available. Now that the money was almost used up, it was time that Government fulfilled their promise. He therefore requested the House to give its unanimous support to this resolution.

Mr. D. VENKATARAMANAPPA seconded the resolution. He added that the city municipality would not have taken up the underground drains in the city but for the pressure brought to bear on it by the Government. The loan of Rs. 20 lakhs was also raised by the municipality as per suggestion of the

Government and in the sure hope of a moiety of the cost of the underground drainage being met by the Government. As a matter of fact this was also definitely promised by them. If this was not paid, the municipality could not execute the work in even half the city area. As stated by the mover, the Government were deriving a large revenue from the municipal area under income-tax, registration, excise, entertainment tax, etc. Except for a small grant of a few thousand rupees made to the city, Government were taking away all the rest of the city's revenue. Many of the amenities provided by the city municipality were also benefiting those who came from the villages to transact business in the city, and the House, of which a majority of its members came from the villages, must kindly support the resolution unanimously

Mr. S. VENKATASWAMY GOWDA, in opposing the resolution, characterised the request contained in it as very unfair to the villages and untenable in principle. It was true that Bangalore City occupied a very important place in the State and that was the reason why Government went on making large grants to it every year. But it looked as though the more the Government gave, the more the city asked for. The mover of the resolution had advanced a very curious argument that the city municipality was incurring a large expenditure of Rs. 2 lakhs on account of drinking-water supplied to visitors from the villages and that the Assembly should therefore support the resolution. He wished that the mover of the resolution had considered the financial and economic position of the villages as a whole and judged for himself whether more munificent grant for the cities could really be justified. As against the mover's argument, the speaker would ask the city municipality whether it was not a fact that the villagers visiting the city were being relieved of all their money, what with its cinema houses, coffee clubs, hotels, etc. The speaker did not oppose in principle the grant of any financial help to the city which the Government could easily afford, but there was certainly no meaning in the city municipality's request that Government should go on granting Rs. 2 lakhs every year to it. At any rate, no one could justify such a grant when all the villages together were getting only Rs. 1½ lakhs per annum.

Mr. H. K. MADIAH supported the resolution from the point of view of the fair name of the State. Distinguished visitors from all parts of the world visited the cities, more than the villages, and the impressions they formed about the State were found on the basis of what they saw in the cities. It was necessary therefore that the cities were maintained as best as possible. After all, the residents of the cities were not outsiders and a number of them were friends and relations of persons living in the villages. If the cities were kept well, the welfare of the villagers as a whole would be promoted. Again, if the drainage in an important and extensive place like Bangalore was not efficient, the citizens would find life in the city very hard. Even with the large expenditure that was being incurred at present in the city on health and sanitation, the speaker found that there were many places in the city where water stagnated and soaked underground. There was no doubt that such areas stood in need of improvement immediately. His Highness the Maharaja and the Government were treating all the subjects of the State alike, and it was necessary that the Assembly also should do likewise. While therefore the members of the Assembly were perfectly right in asking for larger grants for the villages, they would not be justified in opposing any request for the improvement of the cities. He did not feel that it would be justifiable to say that the grant asked for in the resolution should not be sanctioned simply because the villages were not getting enough. Such a comparison was really not called for. It would be a matter for pride to the State as a whole if Bangalore City was improved so as to compare very favourably with London, Paris, Berlin, etc. From this point of view he supported the resolution with very great pleasure.

Mr. SHAMPUR PAPANNA said that in view of the commercial importance of Bangalore and of the reasons urged by the previous speaker, the resolution ought to be supported by the House unanimously.

Mr. Y. V. MUNISWAMI IYER feared that agitators were at any time likely to instigate scavengers in the city to go on strike. If ever such a thing happened, the residents of Bangalore City would be inconvenienced and their health endangered. If, however, underground drainages were laid, they would have nothing to fear from strikes, etc. If once public health in the city became unsatisfactory and epidemics broke out, it would be very easy for them to spread to all the surrounding villages. For this reason the resolution under discussion deserved support from all members of the House.

Mr. G. S. SUBBA RAO said that he was unable to follow the argument that much of the expenditure incurred by the Bangalore City Municipality was on account of villagers. After all, visitors to the city would not long remain in the city and the cost to the municipality on account of the water consumed by them or of the other amenities which they enjoyed could not be very considerable. Secondly, drainage schemes prepared by various other municipalities like Madhugiri were either being shelved or executed in small instalments. Such being the case, he did not see any reason why the Government should make a munificent and recurring grant to the city municipality which was itself deriving a very large revenue every year and also was reported to have surplus funds at its credit.

Mr. MIRZA AZIZULLA BAIG hoped that the members who had expressed themselves in opposition to the resolution did not really mean all that they said. Bangalore was the seat of the Government, and all the central offices like the High Court as well as several important institutions in the State were all located in it. It was necessary that Government gave sufficient financial help for the efficient maintenance of such an important city.

With regard to the contention of some of the speakers that it might not be true that the city municipality was incurring any large expenditure on account of visitors from the villages, he stated that competent authorities had stated that 60 per cent of the expenditure on account of water-supply in the city was incurred on account of public taps and only 40 per cent on account of private connections. Public taps, he said were mostly used by the floating population. And this in itself was enough to show that the villagers and others coming to the city profited by the public taps more than the residents of the city themselves did from house connections. More than one member had made it clear that if public health in the city was affected, the surrounding villages would naturally have to suffer, and from the point of view of the welfare of the rural parts themselves, the resolution under discussion deserved support from the House.

The SECOND MEMBER (Mr. K. V. Anantaraman) observed that the discussion which had so far taken place might lead to an erroneous impression that there was a serious clash of interests between Bangalore City and the village parts. As a matter of fact, so much discussion did not appear to be necessary at all. It was usual for all municipalities to ask for liberal financial help from the Government, and the City of Bangalore was doing no more than that. Again, with regard to the underground drainage scheme, Government had definitely promised the Bangalore City Municipality that help to the extent possible would be extended to them for completing the scheme. At the same time it might not be possible for Government to grant the request contained in the resolution in full and immediately. The reply of Government to the mover of this resolution was that they would consider the request sympathetically and extend to the municipality whatever help was possible.

Mr. B. L. BYANNA thanked the Government for their sympathetic reply. He also thanked the members who had supported the resolution. He hoped that even those who had opposed it on the present occasion would, on reconsideration, revise their views and realise the justice of the request in question.

The resolution was withdrawn by leave of the House.

SPECIAL REPRESENTATION :

Grievances of Railway Employees.

Mr. Bhupalam CHANDRASEKHARAYYA, at the outset, thanked the Dewan-President for permitting him to move as a special representation, though not as an adjournment motion, the question of the grievances of the Mysore State Railway employees. This was a question directly affecting the good understanding and relationship between the employer and the employees. He had no doubt that the Government, in following a forward industrial policy, were concerning themselves with the good of the labourers. This class of workers were many more than other kinds of employees. Many conveniences and comforts had been created for them by the Government. Even the wages paid to them were higher in Mysore than in similar concerns in British India. For instance, the labourers in Bhadravati were being paid 1½ times the wages paid to labourers in the Tata Company. In other directions also, the labourers here were getting greater encouragement than those in the other parts of India. They might have a number of minor grievances, but he had no doubt that as funds became available those grievances also would be redressed.

Coming to the question of railway employees in particular the speaker said that they had certain grievances requiring to be brought to the notice of the Government. There were in the whole of India 52 Railways, of which only 14 were first-class ones, the Mysore State Railway being one among them. It was a matter of common knowledge that for any cause to progress in these days of conferences, federations, etc., combined effort on the part of all those concerned was necessary. Every Railway in British India had conceded to its employees the right of forming railway unions wherein they could freely express their grievances and through which they could urge those grievances before the authorities for redress. But unfortunately such a right had not been conceded to the railway employees in Mysore. No doubt there was an association of railway employees in Mysore called the Railway Workmen's Association, and the late lamented Mr. M. Venkatakrishnayya was its President for some years. Subsequently, however, the Presidentship went to the Hon'ble Mr. V. V. Giri, and Mr. Venkatakrishnayya was only a Patron. After this, *i.e.*, in the year 1933, the Government imposed certain restrictions on the association, as a result of which not much work could be done by that association. It had just begun to raise its head once again. But Government were insisting that there should be no such association for the railway employees. The speaker had with him a copy of the circular issued in this connection. It was stated therein that the railway employees also were Government servants and as such they should not be open to any influence from outsiders who had nothing to do with them. Nor were the railway employees permitted to start an association on their own initiative and work it themselves. The authorities were somehow under the impression that the formation of unions was a subversive activity and they wanted to impress upon the railway employees the desirability of their not indulging in such activities. The authorities however suggested that a committee consisting of representatives of the labourers and railway officers might be brought into being to inquire into any grievances which the employees might have. But the railway employees seemed to have represented that, for obvious reasons, they themselves could not appear before such a committee and represent things boldly, and that even if they did so, they might be victimised for it, and therefore they prayed that permission be granted to them to represent their grievances through an association. But the authorities were not moved by that and they continued to take up the same old attitude.

The workmen then took up the question of affiliation of their association

to the All-India Railwaymen's Federation at Madras and of recognition by the Railway Board. They placed their request before the Railway Board. The Railway Board replied that a copy of the conditions precedent to the recognition of the union by the Railway Administration had been forwarded to the General Manager, Mysore State Railway. It was thought that the affiliation and recognition referred to would become possible if and when the local association or union was recognised by the Local Administration. As in Mysore, there were railways elsewhere in India, and the employees in the several railways had been permitted to have unions of their own. It was only in Mysore that no such permission had been accorded. Perhaps the Government of Mysore, in refusing permission, were influenced by their experience of the activities of the Mass Awakeners' Association or other organizations. But the speaker would like to state, while on this subject, what the Mass Awakeners' Association stood for. It was never for disturbing the public peace and tranquillity in the State. It was guided by the best of motives. Even Mr. S. Ramaswamy, the President of the Association for the time being, had no sinister motive. He did not want to create any trouble in the country. Labour problems were getting more and more complex from year to year and unions were necessary for the successful solution of such problems. It was high time that those in power recognized this and acceded to the request of the employees for permission to form an independent organization of their own. The speaker granted that it was possible to argue that until Trade Union legislation was introduced as in British India, no union could be recognized in Mysore. But such an argument, in his opinion, was not tenable. In Hyderabad, for example, there was no trade union legislation and yet employees of the railway there had been permitted to have an independent organization of their own.

The speaker then proceeded to enumerate specific grievances of the railway employees in Mysore. First, unlike other Government employees, they were not given pensions even after 25 or 30 years of service. There was a provident fund scheme, no doubt, but it applied only to those getting a pay of more than Rs. 15 a month. There were as many as 12,500 workers in the Railway, of whom 1,250 were in the Railway Workshop. These labourers got a daily wage of 8 annas to start with. They were given a daily wage of 12 annas after 5 or 6 years of service, and the next higher rate of Rs. 1-2-0 was given to them only after they had put in a service of about 15 years. It was only at that stage that the employees would first become eligible for the benefits of the provident fund scheme. The employees however wanted that the provident fund scheme be made applicable even to those getting a daily wage of 12 annas.

Secondly, as regards holidays, the employees were entitled to utilise only 15 days' casual leave, sick leave up to one month, subject to a maximum of 40 days at a time, and all leave not utilised within 2 years from date of accrual would lapse. Beyond this they had no other concessions in the matter of holidays. But in the other departments of Government, the employees were entitled to greater concessions, like privilege leave which could accumulate to the extent of 3 months at a time, in addition to sick leave and other kinds of leave, and it was only privilege leave in excess of 3 months that would lapse.

Then, the scales of pay in the other Railways were much higher than those in the Mysore State Railway, so far as the superior staff was concerned. The speaker thought that perhaps this disparity was mainly responsible for all the agitation on the part of the employees. The employees transferred from the M. & S. M. Railways to the Mysore State Railway were given the scales of pay which they had been drawing before the transfer. Even the lower subordinates like pointsmen, linemen, etc., were getting Rs. 20 in other Railways, whereas similar subordinates in the Mysore State Railway were getting only Rs 13 a month. The speaker asked whether this could not be a just

ground for complaint so far as the employees in Mysore were concerned. At the same time, as already stated they feared victimization if they themselves were to represent these facts, and this was exactly the reason why they were yearning for an independent organization of their own. If the intention of the Government was that recognition to such an organization could be given only after trade union legislation was introduced, they might as well introduce such legislation without delay. If, however, delay was inevitable, it was but right that the employees were given sufficient facilities to represent their grievances through some kind of an organization for the time being. They could by no means withhold recognition for all time, as a matter of principle. Recognition they were bound to give, and that in the near future, because when railways came to be regarded as a federal subject, all the railways would necessarily have to adopt uniform methods with a view to be able to enjoy similar status. Railway unions under those conditions would be a certainty and a feature common to all the railways, whether a particular railway was willing to recognize such unions or not. In consideration of the foregoing facts, the speaker appealed to the Government to accord recognition to the union of the employees of the Mysore State Railway, without delaying it till such time as trade union legislation was introduced.

Mr. KHAJI SYED YUSUFF SAHIB regretted that he was obliged to oppose the representation. He was not sure that the intention of the railway employees to form a union of their own was *bona fide*. He feared that the employees had some ulterior motive in insisting upon the formation of an independent union. It had been remarked that the employees had certain grievances. If that were so, the speaker would ask which of those grievances had been brought to notice but remained unredressed. No doubt, the scales of pay in the Mysore State Railway were lower than those in others. But, for that, the reduction of railway fares and freights was partly responsible. People wanted special facilities for marketing their crops in the cities and towns where there was demand for them and so the railway fares and freights were reduced. Otherwise, the raiyats would have been obliged to pay more. He had no objection to the railway employees being paid better if correspondingly the railway earnings increased. But so long as the fares and freights continued at the present level, he thought there was no possibility of the earnings improving.

The speaker then observed that the mover of the representation and others of his way of thinking should know clearly the difference between Company-managed and State-owned railways. Perhaps the employees in company-managed railways had justification to form unions and demand recognition for them. But in Mysore there was no such justification; because the Railway, like any other department of Government, formed a limb of the Administration. The relations between the Government of Mysore and their employees in all the departments were very cordial. If the railway employees were permitted to have a special association of their own, it would act as a bad or inconvenient precedent and result in interfering with the existing cordial relations between the employees in the other departments and the Government. The speaker knew for a fact that only a few disgruntled employees pleaded and persisted in the formation of independent union. The others were all reasonable men and were quite content with representing their grievances, if any, to their officers and seek redress. In the company-managed railways, the employees were in the habit of striking work frequently. Such things were likely to happen here also after the formation of a union. Strikes meant so much of dislocation of business and inconvenience to the general public. It was not desirable therefore to permit the formation of the union in question. The member also added that union should be the last resort for the employees, after every other recognised method of seeking redress had failed. It could not be said that in Mysore

State Railway the employees had at any time brought their grievances to the notice of the authorities but that their prayers had been rejected so that the formation of a union had become inevitable.

It might be that railway employees elsewhere, in British India particularly, had unions of their own. But it was not desirable to blindly copy everything from British India. For instance, many of the appointments were reserved for Anglo-Indians in certain railways. The speaker asked whether the same policy could be adopted in the Mysore State Railway and whether anybody here would agree to such a proposition. Personally he felt that none would agree to such a course being adopted here. After all, as between an employer and the servants, no outside agency or influence should be allowed to interfere and from this point of view also it was not advisable to allow a union to come into being.

Lastly, the railways formed an imperial subject and therefore imperial necessities weighed with the railway authorities in India in the matter of railway fares, etc. But there was no such thing in the Mysore State Railway.

The main grievances of the employees seemed to be that they were getting less pay than their compeers elsewhere. But that question was dependent on the profits earned by the railway. Not much purpose could be served by the employees comparing themselves with those elsewhere. Other railways might employ persons of their own choice and pay them liberally for reasons of their own. But conditions in Mysore were quite different and the only consideration that might determine the scales of salaries here should be the profits. And if the railway earnings increased materially in future, the members of the Assembly would themselves come forward and urge that the prospects of the railway employees be improved. At present, however, this was not possible and there was no justification for the employees to agitate for improvement of their own pay and prospects.

For these reasons, he requested the mover to withdraw the representation.

Mr. L. VEMA REDDY wholeheartedly agreed with the views expressed by the previous speaker. He also referred to the points of difference as between Company-managed railways and the State-owned railways. The employers in the one case were foreigners, having their own vested interests, whereas in the other, the employers were the Government themselves; besides, in the latter case the employees were the State's own subjects. There was no necessity for railway employees in Mysore to have their own organization. If it had been their case that they were not in a position to ventilate their grievances fully and effectively and therefore stood in need of an association to represent those grievances, they could have been permitted to have an association of their own. But that was not really their case. As a matter of fact, they could approach their officers personally and represent before them their grievances so that the officers might redress those grievances Even if they could not get redress at the hands of those officers, the employees had the opportunity of representing their grievances to the higher officers and they could even go right up to Government. Surely, nobody could say that all officers were so hard-hearted as not to hear even just grievances and redress them. Thus, it was not necessary for the employees of the Mysore State Railway to form a union of their own just for the purpose of representing their grievances. The British Indian State Railways might have permitted their employees to form unions of their own because they, as employers of labour, were responsible to the Government for the care and well-being of the employees who were subjects of the Government. But here the conditions were different. The employers and the Government were the same. Under such circumstances, the speaker could not believe that the Government would remain indifferent to the interests of their own employees. From this point of view also, the establishment of a union was quite unnecessary.

The speaker did not know whether the question of poor salaries could be cited as a ground to justify the formation of a labour union. For that matter, the lower subordinates of the revenue and some other departments also drew very small salaries, but they never sought to form independent organizations of their own, for the purpose of ventilating their grievances. If the railway employees were permitted to form a union, naturally the employees of other departments also should be permitted to have their own unions. But that would be neither possible nor desirable in the interests of the cordial relationship between the Government and their employees.

Speaking of salaries, again, the member observed that the State had sunk a large capital on the Railways, but the return thereon was not adequate enough to meet even the bare interest charges. This was hardly the time for the employees to urge for a revision of the scales of their pay and improvement of their prospects.

In conclusion, the member uttered a note of warning to certain outsiders who were interesting themselves in the internal affairs of the State. He then remarked that it was easy for them to rouse the feelings of uneducated and inexperienced people and let loose forces over which they themselves could exercise no control later on. If such a state of affairs ever arose unfortunately, the so-called leaders would perhaps keep back, and it was only the ill-advised local people that would suffer. He would therefore earnestly warn such people to beware of such untrustworthy leaders.

At this stage, the GENERAL MANAGER, MYSORE STATE RAILWAY (Mr. Y. K. Ramachandra Rau) gave a brief account of the circumstances which had culminated in the agitation on the part of the Railway employees and also explained the attitude of Government with regard to their claims. About the early part of January 1939, the employees of the Railway Workshop at Mysore held a meeting and resolved to request the authorities to permit them to start an independent organization of their own. Their leader was sent for by the authorities and informed of the difficulties involved in the formation of a "Union." At the same time he was told that the employees might represent grievances, if any, to the authorities who would certainly examine them and give such redress as was possible. With that object in view, he was told that he might keep himself in touch with the labourers and ascertain their grievances and represent them during weekly interviews and monthly meetings to the Works Manager, and once in two months to the Loco. Superintendent. He was also told that a staff committee would be appointed, and a representative selected by each shop would have a place on it. The idea was that the committee would meet with the Works Manager once a month, and have a frank discussion on all the matters that went up before it. Seven out of the fourteen workshops agreed to this proposal, and chose their representatives. The remaining did not elect representatives and the speaker was not aware even now why they did not do so. But it was obvious that they did not take kindly to that proposal. So they stayed away. But the authorities wanted that the committee should be brought into existence and made to function without any delay. With this object in view, the Works Manager himself selected men from the different workshops which had not elected their representatives. When the first meeting was about to be held, oddly enough, all the representatives resigned their places on the committee. Consequently, the meeting could not be held, nor were there any subjects for inclusion in the agenda. So, that attempt proved futile. Since then, too, no meeting could be held, matters having remained the same. The employees wanted to have a union of their own. They were informed that the first of the conditions precedent to the recognition of a union by the Railway Administration all over was that the union should be registered under the Trade Unions Act; and since no such Act was in force in Mysore, the union could not be brought into existence and recognized.

But on that account alone the employees had nothing to lose, because, even without such a union, their grievances could be redressed. In fact that was exactly what the authorities had told the employees. They had been told that, as there was no prospect of a union being established in the near future, owing to the absence of a trade union legislation, the employees could very well form an association, with the permission of the Government, through which they could represent all their grievances, and that the authorities concerned would give the most sympathetic consideration to such representations. But the employees did not seem to relish that suggestion. So, even that attempt on the part of the authorities proved abortive. The employees, however, held their own meetings independently. Recently, the labourers were given a chance to meet the speaker for representing their grievances, but no deputation came up. Short of promising recognition to any union which the employees might start, because there was no law permitting it, the authorities did everything they could to help the labourers to represent their grievances. But it was a matter for regret that not one of the opportunities were availed of by them.

With reference to the observation of some of the previous speakers that the employees transferred from the M. & S.M. Railway service were drawing very much higher salaries than those already in the employ of the Mysore State Railway, the speaker explained that the pay of transferred men continued as per conditions of transfer. As regards the employees of Mysore State Railway, they had also the benefit of gratuity and provident fund. Those drawing Rs. 30 per month or getting a daily wage of Rs. 1-2-0, could subscribe to the provident fund, while all were eligible for gratuity. These facts, the speaker hoped, were sufficient to show that employees had no major grievances; but granting that they had any, it must be evident from what he had stated already that the authorities were quite prepared and willing to give every reasonable facility for the men to represent their grievances and secure redress. But all advice tendered by the authorities was not relished by the employees for the mere reason that such advice did not accord with their wishes. Surely, the authorities were not meant merely to carry out the dictates of their employees. Briefly, therefore, the present position was that while the authorities were always prepared to give a most sympathetic hearing and consideration to the grievances of the workmen, they could by no means accord recognition to a union for which no legal provision existed.

Mr. D. VENKATARAMANAPPA, speaking next, thanked the General Manager for explaining the origin and growth of the railway employees' agitation. From the explanation it was clear that the authorities concerned had done everything they could to enable the labourers to represent their grievances, but that the labourers had not availed themselves of the opportunities afforded. The speaker, however, complimented the officers for the conciliatory attitude which they had throughout taken up. That itself was sufficient to show how deeply concerned they were for the well-being of the labourers. Such being the case, it was a matter for regret that Mr. Bhupalam Chandrasekharayya should have thought it fit to bring forward a subject like this—and that in the form of an adjournment motion in the first instance—as if the concerned officers had not shown sufficient sympathy for the labourers and therefore deserved to be blamed for it. The fact that the subject-matter of the adjournment motion was allowed to be discussed as a special representation only indicated the Dewan's sympathy for the labourers. But as regards the agitation carried on by them, the speaker could not but remark that certain interested persons were seeking to disturb the political atmosphere in the State. This, in his opinion, was due to unemployment among the educated people. It was better, he thought, that Government tackled this problem as early as possible, though obviously it would never be possible to give employment to one and all. Meanwhile, the unemployed men also should have the

interests of the State at heart and not do anything which might affect the reputation of the State. The explanation furnished by the General Manager was both clear and convincing. Mr. Chandrasekharayya might have as well met the General Manager and ascertained the state of affairs from him directly instead of bringing up the subject before the Assembly. Recently, there were strikes in some of the private mills in Bangalore. The speaker and another member of the House—Mr. T. L. Gangoji Rao Salankey—took pains to pacify the labourers. Mr. Chandrasekharayya also might have taken some such action. No adjournment motion or special representation was necessary for pointedly bringing the matter to the notice of the authorities concerned, if only Mr. Chandrasekharayya had met the General Manager and known things for himself. Reference had been made in the mover's speech to the Mass Awakeners' Union. While on that subject, he was tempted to say that it was not a State-wide organization, but was only confined to Bangalore. Instead of wasting their energies in helping the agitators, if the leaders of that union had only co-operated with the city municipality, things would have been very much better. The speaker could not support either the step taken by that union or the agitation carried on by the railway employees themselves. For these reasons he opposed the representation.

Mr. Vajapeyam VENKATESAIYA supporting the representation, observed that it was bad logic to argue that if permission was granted to the railway employees to form a union it might lead to strikes. There were any number of professional associations in Mysore, such as the Mysore Engineers' Association, the Civil Services Association, the Medical Practitioners' Association, etc., and happily they had not organized or participated in any strikes.

Mr. Y. K. RAMACHANDRA RAU pointed out that the railway employees could even at present run an association if its object was only to secure mutual benefit and to promote *esprit de corps*, etc. The objection was only to the starting of the particular kind of association which they wanted but which could not be recognized in the absence of a Trade Union Act.

Continuing, **Mr. Vajapeyam VENKATESAIYA** said that at the previous session he had given notice of a proposal to introduce trade union legislation in Mysore but for want of time it was not taken up. That was why he had brought forward a similar proposal on the present occasion also. He had no doubt that all unrest on the part of labourers would cease if the trade union legislation was introduced, and accredited leaders of the labourers were recognized as spokesmen to represent grievances to the authorities. As a result of the forward industrial policy adopted by Government, the State was progressing rapidly. The number of industrial concerns started in the State was very large and naturally also the number of labourers employed by such concerns. These numbers were certain to grow in future, and the problems affecting labour would have to be handled with great care and in accordance with definite rules and regulations. This was why it was necessary to introduce legislation in the State without delay. In the absence of definite rules of procedure in matters such as those relating to the welfare of labourers, there were bound to be differences of opinion as between the employers and the employed and any slight misunderstanding might strain the relations between the two. The General Manager for Railways had been pleased to say that there was nothing to prevent labourers from representing grievances to the higher authorities. When all was said and done, there were certain trivial matters which could not be taken to the notice of the higher authorities. This statement, however, should not be taken to mean that all the grievances were trivial. They would represent through their responsible leaders only those worth being represented. But when such representations were made, as stated already there would be nothing to guide the officers to decide upon the remedies called for. For these reasons

he requested the Government to introduce trade union legislation as early as possible. He also suggested that even until such legislation was introduced, the employees should be permitted to have an association of their own.

Mr. Y. K. RAMACHANDRA RAU repeated what he had already stated, *viz.*, that till trade union legislation was introduced in Mysore, the employees of Mysore State Railway could only form an association meant for their own progress. The pity of it was that the employees had placed themselves in the hands of certain interested, inexperienced persons who were hardly competent to lead them. When there were persons who knew better local conditions as well as the state of affairs elsewhere, the speaker wondered why the employees did not choose such men to lead or represent them. He also wondered why the employees were not listening to his own words of advice, realizing that he was ever ready to hear and help them to the utmost extent possible.

Mr. S. C. MALLIAH observed that the gist of Mr. Bhupalam Chandrasekharayya's speech in moving the representation was that the employees of the Railway should be permitted to form an association of their own so that they might have the opportunity of representing their wants and grievances to the authorities. In that connection, the hon. members of the House should consider one important question whether the employees of the Mysore State Railway were not enjoying such an opportunity in common with those of other large industries, even without a special organization of their own. Government had been pleased to reserve two seats in the Assembly and one seat in the Legislative Council for the representation of labour. This was only one of the many visible indications of the solicitude of Government in the welfare of labour. But the labourers in question obviously were not content with such privileges, and they wanted an independent organization of their own. The explanation of the General Manager was sufficient to convince the House as to why independent railway union could not be permitted at present. So, the railway employees could not make a grievance of the refusal of the officers to recognize any union which the former might start. Nor had Mr. Bhupalam Chandrasekharayya given any reasons to show the need for such an independent organization. At the same time they deserved to be blamed for having hastened to invite leaders from outside to visit this State and espouse their cause. This was certainly a step which ought to be discouraged.

The speaker proceeded to ask what, after all, were the labourers' grievances and whether they had just ground for complaint that those grievances were taken to the notice of the authorities and yet not redressed by them. Hon. members might have noticed that the labourers had not taken advantage of representatives of labour on the constitutional assemblies of the State and brought to the notice of the authorities, through such representatives, any hardships which they were labouring under. This by itself went to show that the employees had no real grievance at all.

It was stated that employees of railway in British India and elsewhere had unions of their own. But that was in itself no reason why there should be a similar union in Mysore also. As had already been explained by Mr. Vema Reddy, conditions in Mysore very much differed from those elsewhere. Generally speaking, railways in British India were owned and managed by private companies and the shareholders thereof might not be so mindful of the welfare of the employees of such railways. The employees might therefore have their own grievances and in such cases there might be room for unions of their own. In Mysore, however, the railway was owned by the State. The Government of Mysore, which had established a name for just and good government, were naturally interested in the welfare of the railway employees. If these had any grievances, the Government were ever ready to redress them if only the same were taken to notice in the proper way. Besides, any member of the Representative Assembly or of the

Legislative Council was free to bring such grievances to the notice of the Government in one connection or another and the members of both the Houses were all prepared to discuss the same with due sympathy. If the Government refused to redress the grievances, then would be the time for the employees to complain that their interests were in jeopardy and that they should have a union of their own to ventilate their grievances. So long as these opportunities remained unutilized, the speaker did not think it was right and proper for anybody to suggest that there should be trade unions here merely because they existed elsewhere.

Another point for consideration was that the State had invested as much as Rs. 6½ crores of the general tax-payers' money on the railway and if any dislocation was caused in its working, it was easy to imagine the amount of inconvenience that would be caused not only to the Government but to the tax-payer himself.

It was a pity that the railway employees were allowing themselves to be misled by certain individuals who were themselves neither labourers nor accredited leaders of public opinion. Any agitation led by such inexperienced leaders could only harm those very people whose cause they posed to champion. To the State at any rate it could certainly do no good.

In view of all these facts, the speaker regretted that he was unable to lend support to the representation moved by Mr. Bhupalam Chandrasekharayya. Having said all this, the speaker suggested that if the railway employees had any genuine grievances, the Government should kindly do all they could to redress the same. He also suggested that Government should try to create all reasonable conveniences and amenities in favour of the labourers.

The member concluded with the hope that the peaceful atmosphere which always prevailed in the State would be in evidence in the case of Mysore State Railway also, coupled with the assurance to Government that the members of the House would extend to Government their heartiest support in whatever measures they took in dealing with unwarranted agitations.

Mr. Bhupalam CHANDRASEKHARAYYA, in replying to the debate so far, pointed out that, rightly or wrongly, a difference of opinion existed as between the Government and the railway employees, and that his only object in bringing the matter to the notice of the Government on the present occasion was to see that difference was removed and harmony restored as between the employer and the employed. He observed that he was immensely satisfied with the sympathetic reply of the General Manager, in the course of which he stated that he had tried his best to give necessary facilities to the employees and that even now he was prepared to look into their grievances if only these were clearly laid before him. And, so far as the members of the Assembly were concerned, he hoped that they would give their whole-hearted support to any matters that might be brought before the House in future with a view to securing the welfare of the labourers. He quite well understood the force of the argument that till trade union legislation was introduced, no union could be recognized. But he would request the authorities that till such legislation was introduced, the railway employees be permitted to have an association of their own. He hoped that as a result of the discussions in the Assembly, good understanding would be restored between the Government and their employees, and he requested Government that in token of such understanding the cases launched against certain labourers who had taken part in the agitation be withdrawn.

Mr. Y. V. MUNISWAMI IYER strongly opposed the request for the withdrawal of cases as that would not make for a healthy state of affairs in the country. He likened the present pleading on behalf of the railway employees to the oft-quoted instance of the man who misbehaved in the public street and apologised in private.

The PRESIDENT replied that there was no idea of withdrawing the cases.

Rao Sahib M. RAMASWAMY, speaking next, observed that conditions in

Mysore State Railway had very much improved within the past 20 years. The Railway administration and service were at present more efficient than ever before and it was a matter for pride to the State that Mysore State Railway had developed to be one among the first class railways in India. It was necessary that the reputation of such a railway should not be made to suffer on account of agitations like that under reference. The pity of the present situation was that politics influenced the thought and blurred the vision of the so-called leaders in almost every field. In municipalities, district boards and other self-governing institutions, politics had got mixed up with all activities and was tending to disturb the even tenor of all normal life. This explained the reason why there was conflict at every stage in the working of those institutions. As if that were not enough mischief, the said leaders had now begun to mix politics with railway matters also and sought to justify their action by pointing to the analogy of railway administrations elsewhere. By no means could a parallel be established between Mysore State Railway and other railways, and members of the House should always bear that in mind. The capital invested on the other Indian railways mostly came from foreigners but the employees were all Indians. The capitalists, themselves being far away, were unable to interest themselves directly in the welfare of their employees. This was how the system of unions had comes into vogue so that these might serve to present facts before the employers from time to time. In Mysore, however, the Government were the employers and the employees were their own subjects. There was no necessity for any agency to function as a link between the Government and their employees. The British Indian example was not therefore required to be copied in Mysore. If, however, any points for decision arose, concerning the well-being of labourers, there was the Labour Board, presided over by the Director of Industries and Commerce, as Labour Commissioner. He was always accessible to the representatives of the people. Even above him there was the Government at the head of which was one of the most sympathetic Dewans ever known to the State. All grievances could easily be redressed by him. If the labourers did not avail themselves of all these opportunities and merely insisted on being allowed to form a union of their own, it was but natural that Government stoutly refused to entertain the request. Nobody could blame the Government if the labourers allowed themselves to be misled. For this reason he opposed the representation.

Mr. T. L. GANGOJI RAO SALANKEY pointed out that, of late, labour problems were not merely increasing in number but also becoming more and more complicated. There had been a number of strikes since 1930 in Bangalore. First the Kotta labourers (familiarly known as 'nakki weavers') struck work. He and some others interfered and restored good relations between the workers and employers. Recently there was a strike in the T.R. Mills in Chamarajpet, Bangalore. Messrs. Devudu Narasimha Sastry, the Mysore Congress President Mr. Siddalingiah, and the speaker interfered and brought about good understanding between the labourers and the management. There were a number of textile unions and associations in Bangalore, the members of which were mostly outsiders. They were unsophisticated men and required proper persons to lead them. They believed in their leaders implicitly. With such followers and interested or inexperienced leaders, the slightest cause might result in trouble. It was essential that good relations should subsist between Capital and Labour, and for this reason leaders of labourers should be responsible persons. No less a person than the Hon. Mr. V. V. Giri had said once that labourers should be regarded as partners in industry. That might be all right in theory. But as practical persons, members of the House were only interested in finding out whether employees of Mysore State Railway were not better off than many others and whether it was a fact that their condition had worsened after the transfer

of certain employees from the M. & S. M. Railway to the State Railway. The employees might themselves say that they were not well off but that was anything but true They wanted a union of their own but they had been definitely told that that could not be permitted. As regards an association for general improvement, the General Manager had stated already that there would be no objection to its establishment. Beyond that, the speaker said, nothing should be done.

Mr. G. MALLANNA, in further opposing the representation, said that he was wondering why any member should have brought up this question before the House at all except it be with a view to getting cheap notoriety. He pointed out that the circumstances which had led to the establishment of trade union legislation in British India were not present in Mysore. So, in his opinion, similar legislation was not called for in Mysore. As regards the contention that the railway employees in Mysore were not paid properly, he would say that, seeing that labourers were generally earning a daily wage of only 4 annas, the railway employees in Mysore must be grateful that they could get 8 annas per day. If the labourers, in spite of it, were not satisfied, it was best that they left the service and took their chances elsewhere. There were any number of people available locally for taking up their places. The speaker saw no reason why the authorities should entertain the requests of the employees or why the employees should be allowed to form any association of their own. If this was permitted, he rather feared that they would join the Mysore Congress and give more trouble to the authorities.

In concluding the discussion, **the FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina N. Madhava Rau)** stated that the speeches made by the members had shown that practically all sections of the House were agreed that the action taken by the railway authorities was appropriate and even generous.

Mr. Bhupalam Chandrasekharayya who moved the subject had admitted that the statement made by the General Manager was entirely satisfactory.

Reference had been made in the course of discussions to the possible introduction of a Trade Union Act in Mysore. He would not like to leave the House under the impression that any such legislation would or could be undertaken at present. The question had been carefully considered on several occasions by the Board of Industries and Commerce and other responsible bodies and the conclusion arrived at on each occasion had been that such legislation was unnecessary in the conditions of industry prevailing in Mysore. For one thing, some of the largest industrial establishments here were those of Government, which might be expected to treat its industrial employees with all the consideration that it extended to all other public services. Secondly, that type of leadership which sought to serve the works people, instead of appealing to their cupidity and exploiting their ignorance for selfish ends, was totally absent.

On these considerations, the State had adopted all British Indian legislation calculated to confer tangible benefits on labour, such as the Factory Act, the Workmen's Compensation Act, etc., but had found so far no necessity for or advantage in legislating for labour unions and settlement of labour disputes. Such disputes were now dealt with by a non-statutory body known as the Labour Welfare Board, which included representatives of labour. Experience had shown that this simple machinery was fairly efficacious for its purpose.

It was to be sincerely hoped that the workmen would realize the folly of pursuing a course which was certain to involve them and their families in suffering. Government could not put up with lack of discipline in any branch of public service and manual labour, skilled or unskilled, could not be made an exception. It was also to be hoped that the leaders of this agitation, some of whom were young men, would realize that their activities, if they conflicted with law, could not be ignored and that the cause which they had wrongly espoused could bring them neither

success nor public sympathy. The Government could not possibly acquiesce in any sort of outside interference in matters concerning its relations with its own employees

Mr. Bhupalam R. CHANDRASEKHARAYYA requested that Government might at least consider the question of extending the benefits of the provident fund scheme to labourers in receipt of 12 annas or more as wages.

Mr. N. MADHAVA RAU replied that there was no such scheme in the majority of cases. Even in private establishments, such benefit was rarely given, so that the railway employees could not say that they alone were denied benefits which labourers everywhere else were enjoying. There was no use merely asking for more privileges without being clear in their own minds as to what exactly were the privileges they aspired for. However, this was a detail which need not be gone into in connection with the question under discussion.

At this stage (12-10 p.m.) the House rose for the day to meet again at 12 noon on Monday, 5th June 1939.

SIXTH DAY.

Monday, 5th June 1939.

The House reassembled at the Jagan Mohan Palace Pavilion on Monday, 5th June 1939, at 12 of the clock, Mr. President (*Amin-ul-Mulk* Sir Mirza M. Ismail, K.C.I.E., O.B.E., Dewan) in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—*contd.*

Raising the Level of the Waste-Weir of the Dharmasagar Tank.

Q.—16. **Messrs. G. RAMIAH** (Koratagere Taluk) and **Patel DODDE GOWDA** (Gubbi Taluk).—

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) whether it has come to their notice by means of petitions and oral representations that the Dharmasagar tank in Koratagere Taluk, though full, does not supply sufficient water even for one crop;

(*b*) whether it is not a good idea to store water in this tank by raising the level by one or two feet so as to enable atchkatdars to make use of the water in Jayamangali River which will be in floods every year;

(*c*) whether the atchkatdars of this tank have not agreed to pay half the charges if the tank is raised by one or two feet;

(*d*) the reasons for not taking up such beneficial works?

A.—**The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT** (Diwan Bahadur N. N. Ayyangar).—

(*a*) Yes, for raising the level of the waste-weir.

(*b*) This has been done in 1930 by raising the level of the weir by 2 feet.

(*c*) No *mutchalikas* have been executed.

(*d*) Further raising of the weir by one foot will cost Rs. 9,000 and the return is as low as 1·7 per cent.

Mr. G. RAMIAH.—What is the atchkat of the tank?

Mr. N. N. AYYANGAR.—168 acres wet and 105 acres bagayet.

Mr. G. RAMIAH.—With reference to answer (*b*), is the water now available sufficient to serve the entire atchkat?

Mr. N. N. AYYANGAR.—Not quite enough. The waste-weir is to be repaired and the estimate of cost comes